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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/684,881	10/14/2003	Jae-Yeon Song	5000-1-499	4860
33942	7590	09/06/2006		EXAMINER
CHA & REITER, LLC				TRAN, DZUNG D
210 ROUTE 4 EAST STE 103				
PARAMUS, NJ 07652			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2613	

DATE MAILED: 09/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/684,881	SONG ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Dzung D. Tran	2613	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 October 2003.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Unitt et al. U.S. Publication no. 2005/0163149.

Regarding claims 1 and 4, Unitt discloses in Figure 11, a method/apparatus of a MAC (Medium Access Control) control block for controlling transmission of data between a plurality of MAC clients and a plurality of MACs in an Ethernet passive optical network (EPON), comprising:

a plurality of optical multipoint (OMP) blocks 126 (e.g., 802.3 MAC control layer) connected between the MAC clients and the MACs for implementing a multipoint control protocol (MPCP) (page 9, paragraphs 0131-0134); and

a control CPU (e.g., equivalent to a multipoint gating control block) for selectively controlling the OMP blocks so that when any one of the OMP blocks is transmitting the data, the other OMP blocks are prevented from transmitting data (page 10, paragraph 0143).

Regarding claim 2, Unitt discloses the multipoint gating control block determines transmission states of the MAC clients by receiving transmission in progress state variables from the OMP blocks connected to their associated MAC clients and controls data transmission by the MAC clients by providing transmission enable state variables to the OMP blocks connected to their associated MAC clients (page 9, paragraphs 0131-0134).

Regarding claims 3 and 5, Unitt discloses wherein the multipoint gating control block determines a value of a transmission enable state variable by driving a timer indicating a transmission start time and a transmission stop time and provides a transmission opportunity by delivering the value to a corresponding OMP block (page 9, paragraphs 0133-0135).

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
 - a. Sutherland et al. U.S. Publication no. 2003/0177216. Isolation technique for networks
 - b. Haran et al. U.S. Publication no. 2005/0249497. Method for dynamic bandwidth allocation and queue management in Ethernet passive optical network
 - c. Roy U.S. Publication no. 2002/0027596. Real time multimedia conferencing over an ATM cable modem and hybrid fiber coax access

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dzung D Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-3025. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 AM - 7:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jason Chan, can be reached on (571) 272-3022. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Dzung Tran

Dzung Tran
09/03/2006